



INDIGO. . . informal dining spot, featuring "the ice cream experience," full table service, hot buffet and salad bar.

'Inn of Six Flags' becoming 'Flagship Inn'

By JANICE WILLIAMS
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What began in 1958 as the Crossroads Restaurant, decorated in authentic Mexican style and noted for a menu that included Hopkins County stew, is emerging in 1981 as the latest area meeting and convention facility to aim its marketing efforts at the business and commercial traveler.

In 1962, the Crossroads' owners, the Great Southwest Corp., original developers of the sprawling industrial and business park in north Arlington, decided to turn it into a lodging facility, and built 100 rooms, three swimming pools, and ballroom and meeting facilities in a separate building. It was renamed "Inn of Six Flags."

A year later, another 200 rooms were added,

and shortly after that, Sky Chefs, an American Airlines subsidiary, took over management.

In 1970 the facility was bought by American Airlines to add to its chain of hotels, and was the only property retained when the airline sold.

Tuesday marked another milestone in the inn's history as the familiar Inn of Six Flags sign, which towers north of the Interstate 30 off Texas 360, came down and the facility was rechristened "Flagship Inn."

At a luncheon for business and civic leaders, American chairman Albert V. Casey announced that a multimillion dollar renovation of the hotel will be completed in May. In addition to meeting and convention facilities for groups of 20 up to 800 persons, there will

be three restaurants: the Signature Room, with continental cuisine; Indigo, an informal dining spot featuring "The Ice Cream Experience" — where guests build their own sundaes — and Cactus Moon, a lounge topped by skylights that has been created from a former outdoor patio.

There are five swimming pools and golfing privileges at the adjoining Great Southwest Golf Club, where the 18-hole course was designed by Byron Nelson. The inn also furnishes free transportation from Memorial Day through Labor Day to guests who want to visit Six Flags Over Texas.

Despite this latter feature, however, it is the business and commercial traveler that the hotel wants to cater to, said J.J. O'Neill, Sky Chefs president.

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